



57503

Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 029650-109

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Yukitoshi KATO ) Group Art Unit: 3731  
Application No.: 09/993,633 ) Examiner: G. Phanijphand  
Filed: November 27, 2001 ) Confirmation No.: 8228  
For: INSTRUMENT FOR EXTROVERTING )  
BLOOD VESSEL )

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated April 8, 2003, the following remarks are submitted.

The Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different species. As identified in the Official Action, the two species are as follows.

Species I depicted in Fig. 1.

Species II illustrated in Fig. 6.

Based on the observation that the two species are patentably distinct from one another, an election of species requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the two species.

In response to the election of species requirement, applicants hereby elect Species I illustrated in Fig. 1. It is understood that elected Species I also includes the illustrations in Figs. 2-5. Claims 1-10 and 18 are readable on the elected species.

RECEIVED  
MAY 14 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In light of the foregoing, examination of Claims 1-10 and 18 directed to the elected species is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: Matthew L. Schneider  
Matthew L. Schneider  
Registration No. 32,814

P. O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
Phone: (703) 836-6620

Date: May 7, 2003